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Numismatics International is a non-profit educational organization. The Objectives are to encourage and promote the science of numismatics by specializing in areas and nations other than the United States of America; cultivate fraternal relations among collectors and numismatic students; encourage and assist new collectors; foster the interest of youth in numismatics; stimulate and advance affiliations among collectors and kindred organizations; acquire, share, and disseminate knowledge.

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INSIDE N.I.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

There have been no new applications for membership received since last month's report.



DONATIONS REPORT

We have received the following donations since the last report:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Donation</u>	<u>Preference of Use</u>
BESSENYEY, Francis B.	\$30.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
EISEN, Stuart T.	\$10.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
KNEPPER, Robert C.	\$50.00 Cash	NI Library Fund
LAKIN, Robert D.	\$5.00 Cash	NI Library Fund
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PRICE, Fred L.	\$5.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
THORNTON, Susan F.	\$20.00 Cash	General Operating Fund



NI MEETING & EDUCATIONAL FORUM AT 2004 ANA SHOW IN PORTLAND

The next American Numismatic Association (ANA) National Money Show will be held in Portland, Oregon from the 26th to the 28th of March, 2004, at the Oregon Convention Center. The show is hosted by the Willamette Coin Club and the show chairman is Larry Gaye. If you want more information about the show, please contact the convention staff at the ANA at convention@money.org and/or Larry Gaye at Light.Man@Verizon.com.

The Numismatics International (NI) General Meeting and Educational Forum will be held on Saturday, March 27th. The room has not yet been assigned but the time will be 12 Noon and more information can be obtained in the show program when you register if the room number is not published by show time. NI will also be sharing a club table with the IBNS and NBS.

Howard A. Daniel III will be the moderator of the meeting, and the speaker will be Scott Semans. The title of his talk is "Successful Formats for Numismatic Books". Scott is a specialist in Asia, Africa and worldwide primitive pieces, and also stocks many, many references in his inventory. You can see his stock at www.coincoin.com.

Please bring one piece or set, or even a reference, to talk about in the "show and tell" portion of the meeting. You can contact Howard at Howard@SEAsianTreasury.com for more information.

FROM THE MAILBOX

More on 2 x 2's

I was very pleased to read Bill Mullan's article in *NI Bulletin* of August 2003 on the use of 2" x 2" coin cards. I started collecting coins around the same time as Mr. Mullan and, like him, stayed with the folded card mounts used by many dealers and collectors 40 years ago. I have a few other suggestions to add that members sharing this well-tried storage system may find useful.

1. The 9mm "TOT" staples originally used by Mr. Mullan may have disappeared, but an even better version is still readily available, at least in Britain. The "BAMBI" stapler (a Rexel product) is very small, 2.5" in length, weighs less than 1 oz. and takes "Bambi" staples only 7mm in length. These staples pierce the coin cards very easily; the tips meet on the underside of the staple and scarcely protrude, but pressure from the back-end of any ballpoint pen easily flattens them without need for pliers. These are available at any good office supplier/stationers in England, and may well be carried by some outlets in the USA. More information may be obtained from the website: www.accoeuropa.com. In England the stapler with 1500 staples costs about \$4 and a package of 3000 staples (No. 25) costs about the same.

2. I use coin cards with an adhesive on one surface intended to seal the card when the two halves are folded together. I generally obtain Dutch Kwikseal/Hartberger cards (www.vtrinder.co.uk) or e-mail: info@hartberger.nl. The 2" x 2" cards are made with windows of eleven diameters from 15mm to 39.5mm, while cards of 2.5" x 2.5" come with windows of 40, 43, 48 and 53mm diameter for very large coins. I have found that cards holding the smallest coins (windows of less than 20mm) sometimes stay closed by the adhesive for years without any staples. However, especially in the humid climate of South Florida, the sealant on cards holding larger coins soon fails, so staples are essential, and I use them on all cards. Mr. Mullan has well described the best arrangement for stapling coins of various diameters.

Evidently, neither of us feels any inclination to change to envelopes or flips. The coin card protects the coin from handling, is ideal for storage and keeps the data with the coin rather than being separated in the other half of a flip. Also, for many of my coins obtained years ago I have a matching collection of old coin cards with all the handwritten data added by previous owners. I can appreciate the value of computer-made labels for series such as the coinages of the USA or Britain, with a few standard coin sizes and excellent catalog numbering and documentation. However, I mainly collect ancient and other coins with as wide range of diameters, and often without any convenient catalog reference number. For writing on the card I use 0.1mm black Rapidograph-type pens – "Millennium" and "Microperm" are two commonly available and inexpensive Japanese brands – and the white card around the window offers good space for writing whatever information is available.

David Spencer Smith
Miami, Florida

COMMUNIST COPIES OF A REPUBLICAN CHINESE DOLLAR

David Spencer Smith, Miami, Florida, NI #LM-92

Coins of the Chinese Soviet Republic, which was established in November 1931, form a numismatically interesting aspect of China's history. These coins are well listed in various editions of Krause and Mishler's *Standard Catalog of World Coins*. The Soviet Republic struck well made small copper cents and 5-cents (Y-506, 507), and silver 20-cent coins (Y-508). A range of silver dollars are ascribed to several provincial "Soviets" or regions more or less under communist control: a 1931 coin of uncertain validity (KM-5) bearing Lenin's effigy, a crude 1931 Hunan Soviet issue bearing on the obverse a five-pointed star and a small hammer-and-sickle, various issues of the Fukien-Chekiang-Kiangsi and Hupeh-Honan-Anhwei Soviets, generally with a hammer-and-sickle superimposed on a globe (Y-503, 504). Rare dollars of other Soviets are listed in Krause-Mishler as KM-1, 1.1, 1.2 and 2. An extensive series of very crude copper 200-cash (Y-510), less crude 500-cash (Y-512) and additional competently produced dollars with the globe/hammer-and-sickle motif (Y-513) were produced in 1933 and 1934 by the Szechuan-Shensi Soviet. An example of the 500-cash coin is shown in Fig. 1, and Szechuan-Shensi dollar in Fig. 2. These "Soviet" provinces mentioned above included almost half of China, centered in the south-eastern region.



Fig. 1. 500-cash of Szechuan-Shensi Soviet of 1934 (Y-512).
(Note that this and other coin illustrations are slightly enlarged.)

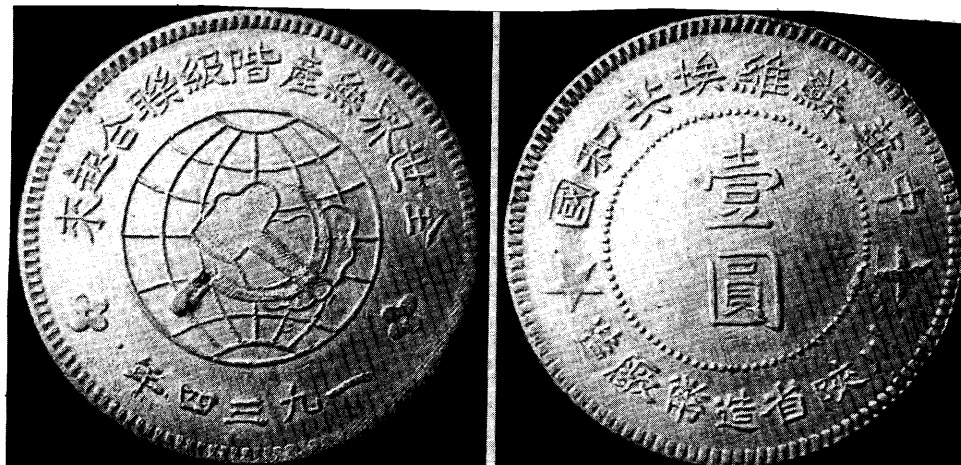


Fig. 2. One dollar of Szechuan-Shensi Soviet of 1934 (Y-513).

However, perhaps slightly predating the earliest of these issues, from 1930, are coins based on an early dollar of the Republic first struck in 1914 for Yuan Shi-kai, at first the "Provisional President of the Chinese Republic" and later the definitive President. These putative communist issues are discussed below. An able military strategist and very astute politician, Yuan Shi-kai controlled the Korean army from about 1882 to 1895, when Korea was suzerain to China. China was comprehensively beaten in a war with Japan from July 1894 to March 1895. This had no adverse effect on Yuan Shi-kai's fortunes: during the revolution of October 1911 he forgot his former loyalty to the Monarchy and became a Republican. Sun Yat Sen was sworn in as first President of the Provisional Government of the new Republic on New Year's Day 1912; he controlled too few military forces to sustain his position and he soon resigned, leaving Yuan Shi-kai to succeed him. On the second anniversary of the 1911 revolution, on 10 October 1913, Yuan Shi-kai was installed as the first definitive President of the Republic of China.

Encouraged by an active monarchist group, which seemed unconcerned by Yuan Shi-kai's pivotal role in forcing the abdication of the boy Emperor Hsüan-t'ung to accommodate the Republic, he started to consider a revival of the Empire. On 12 December 1915 the Council of State pressed Yuan Shi-kai to accept the throne and on 31 December he announced that his new Era, with himself as the Emperor Hung Hsien would start the following day. Conditions in China were chaotic; on 22 March 1916 Yuan Shi-kai formally abolished the still-born Hung Hsien period, which had never enjoyed an inauguration. On 6 June 1916 he died from uremia (Smith and Fu, 2002). After a short career as potentate of China, his posthumous numismatic career was long and extraordinary.

This Yuan Shi-kai dollar had a very remarkable history. Originally minted in Year 3 of the Republic (1914), it was legitimately produced in enormous numbers throughout China until 1927, although Yuan Shi-kai had died eleven years before. According to Kann (1954, pp. 214-5):

"Originally it was decreed that the head-mint--Tientsin-- should lead in the striking . . . and . . . should distribute amongst branch mints in the various provinces the requisite dies, thereby vouchsafing uniformity in weight and design. But this ruling was . . . ignored: partly through lack of discipline, and partly based upon need, subsequent to the then existing civil commotion throughout China."

"As a matter of fact, we are now faced with a multitude of differences in the design of the Yuan Shi-kai dollar of the 3rd year . . . How many of such varieties actually are in existence is very difficult to determine at this juncture; but the author has cause to assume from 200 to 400 such" [including coins of the 8th, 9th and 10th years of the Republic, and fractional issues].

The exhaustive research that Kann saw as necessary to sort out this daunting problem of 200-400 dies has, not surprisingly, never been attempted. He had a shot at summarizing die varieties of the 1914 Yuan Shi-kai dollar but this was not a highlight of his work. The basic coin (Fig. 3) bears on the obverse the President's profile



Fig. 3. One dollar, 3rd Year of the Republic (1914) for Yuan Shi-Kai (Y-329).

facing left, beneath a legend: '3rd year of the Chinese Republic' and on the reverse the value "One Yuan" (= dollar) within a wreath of barley, fastened by an elaborate bow at base. Kann listed about 30 die varieties of this coin but illustrated very few (K-646, 647, 648, 649). The differences noted are very slight, and without Kann's specimens in front of one, it is generally impossible to match a specimen with a Kann number. Kann (1954, p.215) mentions another variable, rather cruder type as:

"... of somewhat mysterious origin. . . the author has cause to assume that it was produced semi-illegitimately by either warlords, or else communist armies, in the outlying provinces, before the latter had their own coinage. Logically one ought to assume that here the silver fine content shows a lower degree. These products cannot be described in details, for all of them vary considerably in design, both as regards obverse and reverse. They are not the work of common forgers, for the latter would have stuck to the original design as far as possible. This group . . . (see type 650) is very interesting indeed, though there remains little hope that anybody would be able to unravel the mysteries of the 'origin of species'".

The principal group of these "mysterious" coins were 650, 650a and 650b in Kann's sequence. These, he noted, *"are said to emanate from communist-administered territories, where they were assertedly struck round 1930."* Unfortunately, no source is given for this statement. However, just before (Kann, 1954, p.214) he suggests that:

"The popularity of the Yuan Shi-kai dollar, even in the outlying provinces, induced warlords there to produce in primitive plants imitation pieces with poorer silver content. These were dated 3rd Year of the Republic, and are divulging vital changes from the originals. . . The communist armies in either Kiangsi, Anhwei or Szechuan, probably even after 1930, are reputed to have placed such 'imitation' dollars into circulation."

So, did the communists reuse warlord issues, or did they make at least some of the imitations? Did they mint more of these or just use the existing warlord issues (if any)? It seems clear that little or no hard information on the origin(s) of these coins has survived, or perhaps more likely, come to the attention of someone interested in the question. It must be said that while these coins are somewhat crude, they are not the products of “primitive plants” called for in Kann’s comment. Warlords and/or the communists are implicated; perhaps evidence for the latter is stronger in view of the later production of several sometimes well struck silver dollar types by various communist-controlled “Soviets”.

An observation further aligning against the warlord option is our knowledge of the numismatic contribution of warlords in China in the 1930s. Admittedly the author’s best knowledge is of the warlords in Sinkiang and adjacent western provinces: we know these men numismatically through the paper money they issued (Smith, Khabibullaev & Fu, 1999; Smith & Fu, In Press). Their principal aim was to extract as much “real” money from areas under their control in exchange for enforced acceptance of valueless “bank notes”. It would have been quite out of character for any of these warlords to have gone to the expense of issuing currency of actual value. The author knows less of warlords in Central and Eastern China in the 1930s, but suggests that their Western counterparts can be ruled out as originators of any of the copied Yuan Shi-kai dollars.

Arguably the first communist usurpation of the First President of the Republic were Yuan Shi-kai dollars counterstamped with 3 Chinese characters—“Soviet”—in a rectangular cartouche near the back of the head. This apparently very scarce coin is listed as Kann-650e. Some doubt has been cast on the authenticity of these coins in a recent Website article by Leung. A correspondent to this website submitted the following comment:

“According to some research, this YSK Soviet stamped dollar was created by a coin dealer named Ping Yu-Lin, who also made many counterfeit coins including different types of Chinese Soviet money during the 30s, in Shanghai. The punch was made by an ex-employee of Fukien mint. These were leaked out by his partner after they had arguments. Ping later died in prison. The Soviet stamped dollars also found on coins with date yr.9.”

Unfortunately, we are told nothing of the “research” on which this suggestion was based. If these counterstamped coins were “fantasies” in the time-honored Chinese tradition, they must have been made for internal consumption since the specialist Western market for Chinese coins in the 1930s must have been vanishingly small. If these were concocted by Mr. Ping and his partner, they certainly did not flood the market in China; Kann (1954) regarded the coin (650k) as “very scarce and highly priced”.

For the “mysterious” warlord/communist issues, Kann again lists more varieties than he shows. Of his types 650 and 651 he notes ten or so die varieties, only half of which are illustrated. Of the four examples of imitative coins available to the author, surprisingly, three can be matched with some confidence to Kann’s illustrations.



Fig. 4. One dollar, Communist/Warlord imitation of Y-329: Kann-650.

Figure 4 corresponds to K-650: the characters of the obverse legend are large very close to the top of the head, Yuan has a 'lump' below the eye on the upper cheek, while on the reverse the details of the wreath vary and the bow is somewhat clumsily drawn.



Fig.5. One dollar, Communist/Warlord imitation of Y-229: Kann-650a.

Figure 5 corresponds to K-650a: again, the obverse characters are large and very close to the head, while on the reverse the wreath encroaches on the "One yuan" legend. Figure 6 corresponds to K-650b: the legend stays clear of the head but the nose is bulbous and a prominent jowl extends from below the year. In making these identifications the shape of Yuan Shi-kai's ear proved diagnostic! Once an ear-match was made, other die details called for-- the Chinese characters, stars on the President's epaulettes, writing of the denomination and details of the wreath on the reverse could be checked. The fourth coin (Fig. 7) was not listed by Kann: it differs markedly from all others examined-- the nose is small and pointed, the obverse characters are small and poorly written, while the reverse wreath is crudely drawn. Evidently this is one coin in the "series" (if the term may be used here) that has not been published. As mentioned below, the weight of this coin is within normal limits for the Republican model, unlike some imitations.



Fig. 6. One dollar, Communist/Warlord imitation of Y-329: Kann-650b.



Fig. 7. One dollar, Communist/Warlord imitation of Y-329.

Except for Fig. 7 the above departures from the standard issue are not great; the die engravers, communist or warlord, did a generally good job. The author has found that the best means of identifying an imitation coin is through a feature only seen through careful examination. Uniformly in each of several "official" coins examined, just inside the raised rim at the edge of the flan in obverse and reverse is a perfectly regular ring of alternating dots and short lines. In these coins (Fig. 8) the dots are 1mm apart and the ring is 0.8mm in height. If this was a security device, it was successful. Those copying the coin often made a decent effort to match the original but failed to reproduce this feature around the entire perimeter, in the specimens examined here. In addition to this pattern on an "official" coin, Figure 8 includes enlargements of a portion of this edge pattern from each of the imitations mentioned above: in sequence, coins shown in Figs. 4, 5, 6 and 7. The dots may be elongated to 1mm or more or may become small or replaced by short lines. In places the spacing is increased to over 1mm. In common with the rest of the coin, Fig. 7 shows almost no attempt to reproduce this pattern. Otherwise, these defects often merge with regions where the dot-and-line pattern or more or less correctly rendered.

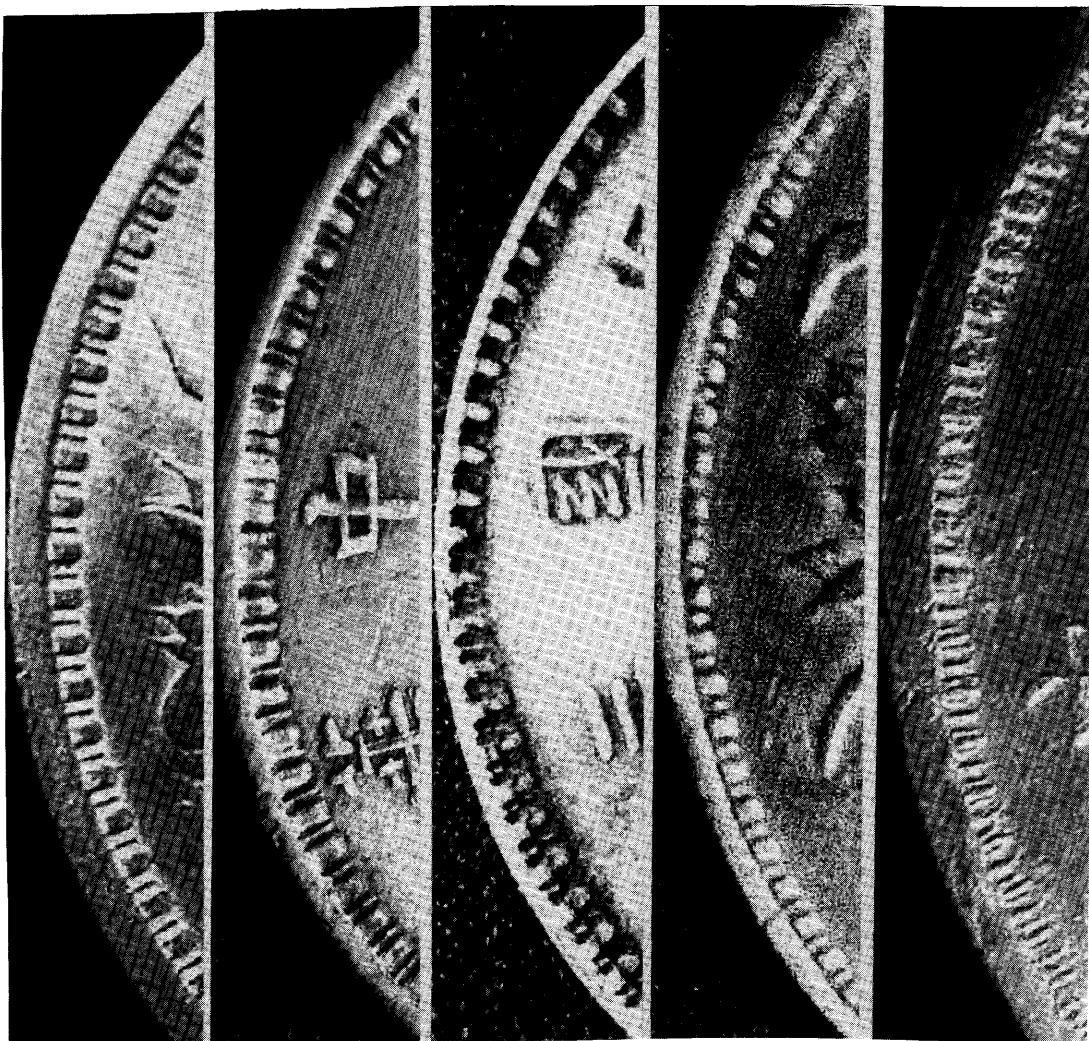


Fig. 8. Enlargements of the edge pattern on obverse or reverse. On left: from an "official" coin (Fig. 3); then in sequence from coins shown in Figs. 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Except perhaps for the last example (Fig. 7), these coins are, as Kann mentioned, by no means barbarous. If they are communist issues, it may be noted that at least the dollars of the Szechuan-Shensi Soviet were competently engraved, although some of the lower denomination copper coins cannot have give satisfaction to Mao Tse'tung or Stalin on the die-engraving abilities of the proletariat.

Subsequent accounts have almost ignored these imitations. The *Standard Catalog* (Krause and Mishler, 1996) notes that:

"Although bearing dates of Yr. 3 (1914) and Yr. 8-10 (1919-1921), these Yuan Shi-Kai dollars were struck for years afterwards. Coins dated Yr. 3 . . . were struck continuously through 1929 and were also later struck by the Chinese Communists. Later again, in the 1950s this coin was struck for use in Tibet. . . The total mintage of all four dates of Y#329 is estimated at more than 750 million pieces."

Chang (1981) simply lists the basic coin (CH218) with CH219 covering specimens with a small circle mintmark in the bow on the reverse. Dong Wenchao (1992) makes no mention of any imitations of this dollar but adds that not only Tientsin was initially directed to produce the coins but also the mints of Nanking, Kwangtung, Hupeh and Kansu.

Kann gave the weight of his specimens of the Yuan Shi-kai dollar (and of other Republican dollars) at 26.9 – 26.4gm. Krause and Mishler (1996) give the weight as 26.4gm, with a fineness of 0.89. Weights of the coins shown here are as follows: Fig. 3 (26.955gm), Fig. 4 (26.55gm), Fig. 5 (24.47gm), Fig. 6 (24.46gm), Fig. 7 (26.40gm). Of the four imitations, two are within the “correct” limits while two (Figs. 5, 6) are about 10% light. However, we have no information on the silver content of the imitations: each has a distinct yellowish cast which may suggest adulteration with copper. As cited above, Kann (1954, p.215) assumed that these coins might be debased, but offered nothing more.

We have seen no specimen or other reference to Yuan Shi-kai dollars reportedly struck in the 1950s-- if true, this is a minor frozen-date Maria Theresa thaler episode. Whether the coins discussed here were produced by warlords or communists may be numismatically interesting but otherwise is an almost trivial question-- the devastation inflicted on the general populous by each was comparable. These coins remain as a component of the convoluted numismatic history of 20th century China: a coin with a remarkable history in its own right, even aside from warlords or communists. These imitations seem almost forgotten; the author does not recall recent advertised listings, and he obtained his specimens 30 years ago. It is possible that additional information might come from detailed analysis of the vast number of Yuan Shi-kai dollars that have survived, but no zealot has yet come forward to tackle this task. Perhaps this article will, at least to a minor degree, contribute to the question if readers examine and reassess their coins. The author would be delighted to receive any such information.

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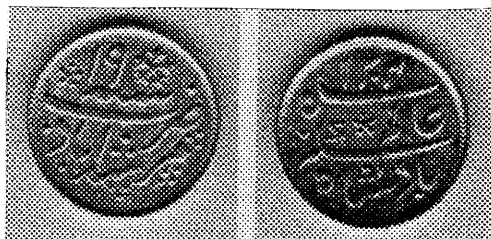
Smith, D. S. and Fu, J. “A Bank Note of the very last Emperor of China”. *International Bank Note Society Journal*, 41:6-10, 2002.

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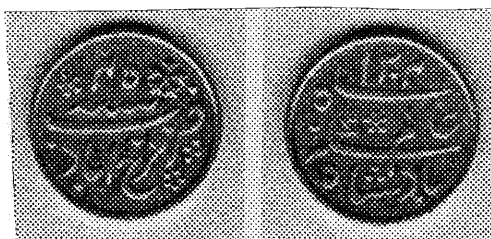
MODERN MINTS OF INDIA

Roger deWardt Lane

The first mint of the East India Company was established at Fort St. George at Madras, India in 1640. The second was set up at Bombay in 1671, and a third was opened in Calcutta in 1759.

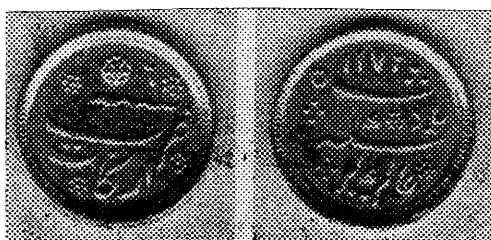


Murshidabad Regnal Year 19

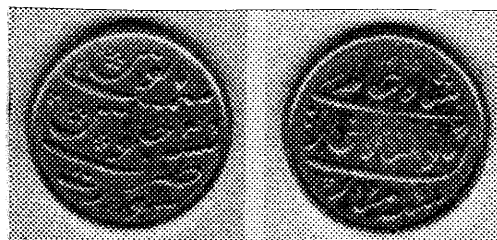


Farrukhabad Regnal Year 45

A number of other Indian mints operated under the control of the provincial governors, including; Nawabs and Wazirs of the Moghul Emperior in Delhi, and Patna, Dacca, Mushidabad, Benares, Farrukabad, Arkat, Sagar. Surat, Poona and Broach. In the course of time, these mints passed under the control of the East India Company, before they were closes. The mints at Dacca, Mushidabad. Patna and Surat were revived in the early nineteenth century for a short period, before they were finally closed.

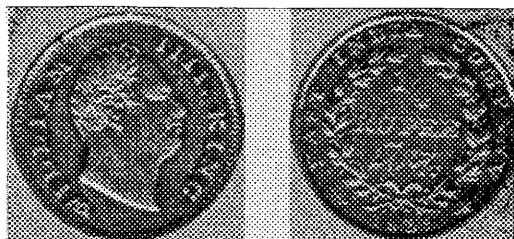


Arkat-type struck at Calcutta 1825



Surat Sun-flower Regnal Year 46

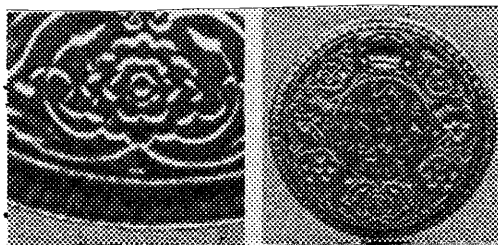
In 1815 it was decided to establish two large mints at Bombay and Calcutta, and close all the other regional mints. The construction began on the two mints in 1824 and was completed in 1829. The Bombay Mint remains in the same old buildings. In 1952 the Calcutta Mint was moved to a new site at Alipore, therefore the Calcutta Mint is now sometimes referred as the Alipore Mint.



East India Company Calcutta 1835

In 1835, when the British India coinage was established there were three government mints operating in India – one at Bombay, another at Calcutta and a third small mint at Madras. The Madras mint closed in 1867.

During World War II, with the Japanese occupying much of South Eastern Asia, the Calcutta Mint was in danger with the threat of a Japanese invasion of the eastern part of India and the vulnerability of Calcutta to air-raids. It was decided to establish a new mint at a safer place farther inland, at Lahore, which opened in October 1943. With the independence of India in 1947, the Lahore Mint came under the jurisdiction of Pakistan.



L mint mark for Lahore ¼ rupee 1945

In 1941 a site for a new mint at Calcutta was selected at Alipore. By early 1942, the foundation work had been completed and the erection of the building was proceeding. However due to the war time conditions, the policy of building the new Calcutta Mint came under reconsideration. As a result the super-structure was moved to Lahore.

After integration of the Princely States with the Indian Union, the mint belonging to the erstwhile Nizam of Hyderabad was taken over by the Government of India in 1950, and the mints belonging to the other Princely states were abolished.

The Mint at Hyderabad had come into existence in 1903. Since 1950 the Hyderabad Mint has been operated as a branch of the Bombay Mint until 1963 when it started to function independently.

In 1952 the Calcutta Mint location was shifted to the site at Alipore and the old mint on the Strand Road, which had been in operation for 123 years was converted into a Silver Refinery for the extraction of silver from the .500 fine rupee, half-rupee and quarter-rupee coins issued during the period of 1940-45, which had been demonetized. The silver extracted was to be returned to the United States Government towards repayment of 226 million ounces of silver sent to India on a lend-lease arrangement during 1943-45.

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Illustrated by quarter rupee coins from the collection of Roger deWardt Lane.

THE TREASURE OF FLORIDA

Hans M. F. Schulman, NI #568

(Reprinted from November, 1977 *NI Bulletin*)

(The following article is a transcript of a lecture delivered on May 26, 1977 before the Iberian-American Society of Numismatic Studies of Madrid. The Meeting Room of the Madrid Mint was the place of the Society's meeting. The transcript of the lecture was in the Spanish language and has been translated into English by NI member Robert D. Ward of Los Angeles, California.)

"June, too soon
July, stand by
August, come they must
September, remember
October, all over."

This is a popular poem (i.e., a poem of the people or of folklore), key to a treasure. We are going to see the connection between it and numismatics.

Don Juan Ponce de Leon discovered on Easter Sunday of the year 1513 the lands which the discoverers named Florida because they arrived there on that holiday (in Spanish, Easter Sunday is "Pascua Florida").

History says that Ponce de Leon, searching like many people for the Fountain of Eternal Youth, believed that he had found it in Florida.

I don't know if this story put its mark on these lands, but today Florida is like a continuous and immense garden city, haven for a multitude of pensioners and retired persons, all expecting to find there the Fountain of Eternal Youth which will grant them the time to live longer. Also, younger people who can't endure the life in the large cities like New York and Chicago find refuge in these lands of Ponce de Leon.

This land that the North Americans of today call their own paradise is not only a haven for retired people but is also a favorite place for vacationers and for adventurers.

This land abounds so in stories that no one could believe them to be true. Although they seem incredible, the proofs of their truth are coins, as we are going to see. The history of Florida is an endless procession of adventurers, noble gentlemen, Spanish captains (or should I say Castillian captains?), fierce pirates, Seminole Indians, and also as I have read, sweet princesses in love with noblemen, many of whom were lost in the horrible storms or were eaten by the crocodiles of the Everglades swamp. Today there are no crocodiles, but there are alligators.

All of the history of Florida revolves around the fabulous treasure of 1715 and other treasures known by the people because of word of mouth.



From left to right: a Madrid collector (name unavailable), Zita Schulman, Hans M. F. Schulman, Juan Cayon (Professional Numismatist & Author), and Aurelio Rauta (President of The Iberian-American Society of Numismatic Studies.)

The frightful history of the treasure of 1715 seems like a fable but if you make a visit to the Archivos de las Indias (Files of the Indies) in Seville, very close to la Giralda (the cathedral tower of Seville), you can read what happened during the afternoon and evening of the 30th of July of the year 1715: the fleet of His Majesty Philip V was destroyed by a hurricane off the coast of Florida. The events were of such nature that they convert into reality the most insane fantasy.

Certainly this was not the first time that ships of many countries disappeared, but in that Spanish fleet there occurred so many incidents that it made this catastrophe one of the largest and most horrible in the history of the world.

The king sent two fleets every year to bring back the riches of the New World, especially gold and silver. One was called "La Armada de Tierra Firme" (The Fleet of Dry Land) and left from Spain for Cartagena of the Indies in Colombia. The other was called "La Armada de Nueva España" (The Fleet of New Spain) and sailed from Veracruz - loaded with all that had been collected in Mexico and especially from the city of Acapulco - Veracruz on the Gulf of Mexico and Acapulco on the Pacific Ocean. The merchandise coming from Manila in the Philippines was received in Acapulco. Manila was the commercial center for all of the Far East.

"La Armada de Tierra Firme" always carried large quantities of silver from Peru, gold coins, and pure gold. The other fleet always carried immense quantities of crude silver coins of different sizes, provisionally made, since these coins were melted in Spain to mint others of better quality. We speak in this moment of the "macuquiñas", better known by their English name "cob".

These two fleets were merged into one in Havana and subsequently returned to Spain. Until before the War of Succession the expeditions from America to Spain were bi-annual (twice a year), but the war made communications between the New World and Spain difficult and not only that but the English and the Dutch represented a great danger to the Spanish ships unless they were accompanied by strong warships.

The War of Succession began when King Charles II died, designating the grandchild of Louis XIV of France as his heir.

England, allied with Austria and the Seven United Provinces (as Holland was called at that time) tried many times to curtail the influence of the Bourbons. This alliance was known as the Triple Alliance.

In the year 1701 the War of Succession against Spain and France began. Logically, France was supporting the candidacy of Philip of Anjou, the grandchild of Louis XIV. The Triple Alliance favored the pretensions of Archduke Charles, who also had the support of Savoy and Portugal. Numismatics shows well the coins of this Charles III "The Pretender", son of Emperor Leopold I of Germany, or rather of the Holy Roman Empire.

Charles III was born in 1685 and was proclaimed king in 1705. In 1711, after the death of his brother Joseph, he was proclaimed Emperor of Germany and the War of Succession ended. Three years later he gave up his pretensions to the Spanish throne.

Philip of Bourbon, now Philip V, was accepted by the Spanish people, but the peninsula was divided into two camps.

Philip V was the son of Louis, the Dauphin of France, and Maria Anna of Bavaria. He was born in 1683 in Versailles; he died in 1746 in Madrid. He was King of Spain from 1700 until January 10, 1724 and from August 31, 1724 to 1746. He was married twice. Born of his first marriage were Louis I and Ferdinand VI, among others, and of his second marriage Charles III; in that order they succeeded him in his reign. Louis, first-born of his marriage with Maria Luisa of Savoy, was King of Spain for only seven months. When he died, he did not have any children in spite of his marriage with Luisa Isabel of Orleans.

Spain, which had had absolute control of the seas before the disaster of the Invincible Armada, had to accept that the fleets of England and Holland were a great danger. Both were enemies of Spain, or in any case of Philip V, since he was recognized as king in the vast overseas Spanish provinces.

The Spanish economy was based principally on the gold and the silver which was sent from overseas. The impossibility of receiving these shipments caused great damage to the country. For example: The fleet of the year 1702 had been sunk in the Bay of Vigo; a booty of 35 million dollars fell into the hands of the English Admiral Rooke and the value of that which was sunk exceeded seven billion pesetas. This occurred in spite of the aid of the French fleet.

When the war ended by the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713 and peace was signed in 1714 in Rastatt, Philip V was recognized as king and communications between Spain and America was resumed. There remained as enemies only the corsairs, the pirates, and the storms. The pirates could not do much against the well-armed fleet, and neither could the storms against wisely commanded fleets.

For these reasons in the year 1715 it was very urgent to organize an expedition to remedy the economic crisis in Spain and the poverty of the Royal Treasury and of private commerce. The king gave orders to the overseas authorities to gather together in Veracruz and in Cartagena all the gold and silver which had accumulated during the war. These riches were not only for the crown, which had the right to one-fifth of the total, but also for all of the private commerce.

Not only in Mexico and Peru, not only in Manila and the Far East, but also in

Ecuador, in Paraguay, in Rio de la Plata, in Sante Fe de Bogota, etc., etc., the treasures were accumulated after twelve years of war!

A fleet was prepared under the command of Captain General Don Juan Esteban de Ubilla of the family of the Secretary of State and of the General Office of the King. It was this family of Don Antonio Cristobal de Ubilla which influenced King Charles II to stipulate in his will in favor of the French aspirant. In the eyes of Philip V, what person more worthy of confidence could the kingdom have?

Ubilla's fleet joined with the fleet of Don Antonio de Echeveiz which had been authorized by the Casa de Contratacion (House of Commerce) of Seville. The operations to collect the goods were not easy - twelve years without communications left much to the imagination and greed of the Spanish and French traders. The French, as partners in the war, had established themselves in Spanish territories competing in commerce with the Spaniards. Ubilla's fleet had to wait in Havana for the ships of Echeveiz. The control of all of the goods and the treasures remitted by the authorities and the private shipments between bankers and merchants of Seville and Cadiz and their American correspondents took much more time than anticipated. The expedition was not ready until near the end of the month of July.

Let's recall the poem with which I began the lecture: July, stand by. On the 27th of July of 1715 the fleet, composed of eleven ships, sailed from the beautiful Cuban port. Now I will read to you what the Spanish historians say:

"After so many years of insecurity in crossing the Atlantic, to have obtained a place for the trip to Spain was a privilege which was envied by those who had come to tell them good-bye. Upon the docks there was a variegated multitude of gentlemen in rich dress coats and three-cornered hats. Above, the decks of the galleons were filled with the happy travelers: women and children who were going to spend a season with their families and close friends in the Old Country; youths whose fathers were sending them to Castilian universities, hoping to return some years later with the privilege of studies completed in far-away Spain; others who went to make their fortune, well-guarded in their pockets the letters of recommendation for personages of Madrid.

"The navigation of the fleet had been decreed by royal dispositions, including the order of sailing. We imagine the fleet thus: at the head sailed La Capitana with the flag and insignias of General Ubilla, preceded by a light warship; following, the merchant ships; and closing the convoy La Almiranta."

This ends our quotation from the chronicles.

At two o'clock in the afternoon on July 30th, the fleet was going through the Bahamas channel. A strong hurricane broke loose. The French ship Grifon sailed north, disobeying orders. It had been ordered to sail as close as possible to the coasts of Florida. Two other ships that attempted to follow the Grifon sank on the high seas. The eight other ships were destroyed or, better said, pulverized by the rocks between Cape Canaveral and Palm Beach or smashed upon the sand by the force of the waves. The description of that night by the survivors is comparable to Dante's *Inferno*. One of the ships had the luck that the upper deck was separated from the rest of the structure and remained afloat like a raft until it reached the beach. The

majority of the survivors came from this ship. More than one-thousand lives were lost, among them that of Captain General Ubilla.

Everything happened during the night. At two o'clock in the morning the hurricane was the strongest. The waves were higher than the ships. No one can imagine what occurred that night.

It all began at approximately three o'clock in the afternoon when the sky became so dark that it seemed like night. In the first hours of the hurricane the sailors on the main masts furling sails were hurled into the sea by the force of the wind. In this manner the ships had no possibility of navigating and the passengers encountered themselves almost without crews. Thus it continued until the ships sank in a sea which only a painter with great imagination could paint. Thus ended an expedition which, as it says in the Archives in Seville: "It had begun with great hopes and illusions and ended under the sign of destruction and misery."

But the misery did not end with this catastrophe. There were many bankruptcies of commercial houses in Seville, Cadiz, Mexico, Lima, Manila, Quito, etc., which followed the disaster. What happened to the survivors should also be mentioned.

As soon as the news reached Havana the authorities sent to the site small vessels with divers. The Treasury succeeded in recovering more than four million pesos. It is said today that all of this stayed in Havana in private hands rather than in the accounts of the crown. The authorities had established a special vigilance in Cape Canaveral to protect the treasures - this vigilance was performed partly by the survivors and partly by soldiers sent from Havana. The women and children survivors, who were very few, were taken back by a ship from Havana. The men in good physical condition had to remain in encampments in the lands of Florida with arms to protect the treasures. It is said that a certain English captain, Jennings, who should have been capturing the pirates of the Caribbean Sea changed roles and behaved like a pirate. With his ship from Jamaica and his English sailors, he attacked the Spanish encampment, surprising and killing. The amount which Jennings alone succeeded in robbing is calculated at close to half a million dollars. And there were also many others who attacked the Spaniards. It is known that from one ship which returned to Havana three thousand ounces of gold were captured. Among the sailors who frequented those seas there was a great fever for gold. Merchant ships of many countries could not go to sea because their crews were "pirating".

After some years, this night of 1715 was forgotten and people no longer thought about all that which was to be found at the bottom of the sea off the coasts of Florida. Until when? Until 1964. The masts remained visible for almost eighty years, until 1800. After that date, no visible sign indicated the site of the tragedy which occurred in 1715.

In 1964 another very strong hurricane, but not as strong as that of 1715, changed the appearance of the coasts of Florida between Cape Canaveral and Vero Beach by displacing a great amount of sand. Kip Wagner, a builder, passing along the beach close to his house as was his custom, entertained himself by exploring the coast and occasionally encountered some silver coins of little interest and other remains that arrived at the beach. But this time, in 1964, the coin that he found was an authentic gold 8 escudos with the date 1713, almost round. Wagner guessed by chance the

place and the time. In those days Mr. Wagner found many pieces with the same date. He didn't want to say anything to anyone until the moment that he was certain that these coins came from the catastrophe of 1715. Wagner took an airplane for New York and afterward for Madrid and Seville and spent days and days studying the Archives. When he returned to Florida, Kip tried investigating on the beach by himself with some machines, and then he understood that the fabulous treasure should be encountered in the sea close to his house. He formed the Real 8 Company with eight persons (divers, adventurers, etc.). During ten years of work they found thousands of pieces in silver and gold. Many of these gold pieces were not known by anyone. I remember a small auction in 1965 of one hundred different pieces called "the treasure of Ubilla". The pieces were so different from those that had been known until then or that were found in the catalogs that it was thought that they were counterfeit. Very soon I realized the importance of this. Mr. Calico was also there, proof of the importance of the auction. In this auction and in some other one, we have seen the "Royals", pieces which in our opinion were destined for the King. Jose de Yriarte and Dr. Leopoldo Lopez Chaves changed their book on the Spanish doubloon after having seen these new discoveries. Thanks to the pieces found and studied, we have been able to clarify various questions which were under discussion - like the "Royals" - "special mintings made with a round hammer". The majority of the coins of the "treasure of Ubilla" were totally unknown before their discovery.

Other coins of the treasure have revealed to us unpublished types and dates, for example the Mexican doubloons that have the year on the reverse like a very few of 1714 or that have "GRAT" in place of the date - the date is struck over the inscription.

Kip Wagner died six years ago. The company still exists; it has a museum. But like the fleet of 1715, Kip's company had many difficulties after his death. A fire in the museum and a great robbery almost caused the bankruptcy of the Real 8 Company but fortunately the company survived.

In 1972 I performed a great auction of the treasure in the Waldorf: 1172 lots, 25 objects. A gold crucifix, bars of silver and gold, Chinese porcelains, rings, 542 Mexican gold pieces. Many of these pieces saw the light for the first time in an auction. For example: 4 Escudos of 1693 - 4 Escudos of 1694 - 1 of 1694 - 1 of 1697 - 1 Escudo of 1702 - 4 Escudos of 1706 - 8 Escudos of 1709 - 1 Escudo of 1710 - 1 Escudo of 1715 - and the "Royals" 8 Escudos of 1702 - 4 Escudos of 1711 - 1 Escudo of 1714 - 8 Escudos of 1714. And the 2 Escudos 1712 and 8 Escudos 1715 also exist, although not in this sale.

From Peru 45 gold lots and the unknown 4 Escudos of 1697.

From Sante Fe de Bogota 72 lots with pieces as unknown as: 2 Escudos 1683 - 2 Escudos 1694 - 2 Escudos 1698 - 2 Escudos 1704 - 2 Escudos 1712 - 1 Escudo 1710.

The auction ended with some Spanish pieces and silver pieces, some so rare that they are not found in Pellicer (standard book on 4 Reales. *EL MEDIO DURO*).

Finally in February of 1977 in California what still remained of Kip's pieces were sold.

I think with much emotion about that night of 1715 and how in 1977 the history of that night finally ended.

THREE MEDALS IDENTIFIED VIA THE INTERNET

Roger deWardt Lane, Hollywood, Florida, NI #815

A friend acquired two foreign medals at a recent show he attended and presented them to me. He knows that I like to research them and donate them to the American Numismatic Society museum in New York. Then a few days later at an antique show, I also found an unidentified medal.

The best way to identify them is to use a mega search engine like *dogpile*. You find a name, a group of words or a date and let the Internet see if they have a reference. The Internet quickly found pictures of the people portrayed on the medals once their identify was determined.

The first one - a large 3" bronze with a man's portrait between two dates with a name around above - was easy. Robert Cochrane Simonsen turned out to be a Brazilian Engineer. The reverse had an inscription *Homenagem da Confederacao Nacional da Industria Brasil*.



Senator Simonsen



Robert Cochrane Simonsen, industrial engineer, professor, historian and politician, was born in Saints, São Paulo, on 18 February of 1889, son of English father and mother, a descendant of a Scottish mercenary who fought for the independence of Brazil and Chile. Simonsen died in 1948. He started to work for the Southern Brazil Railway in 1909. At the age of 24, he established the Construction Company of Saints. In 1919, he was a member of the Brazil contingent at the Commercial Mission to England and, later, representative of Brazil at the International Cotton Industrials Congress in Paris. He took part in the International Work Conference in Washington. In 1932 he devoted his time to the Constitutional Movement of São Paulo. In 1934, he was elected representative of São Paulo and then served in the Senate. Simonsen was imprisoned and passed one season in the exile.

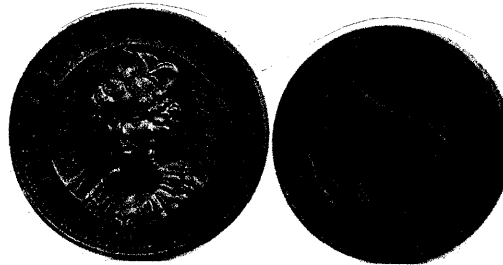
Simonsen, when young was a rich boy and entered the world of the business at an early age. He started in construction and became rich working for the Army. He

dealt in copper, rubber and cattle. Simonsen, however, did not do so well in business as in politics. He died with most his companies closed or in control of his family.

The second medal was in a very nice red box. It is 38mm in diameter with a label inside with the inscription *1968 Fifth Adelaide Festival of Arts*. The obverse displays the portrait of Queen Adelaide 1792-1849 with *The City of Adelaide* around. Queen Adelaide Louise Theresa Caroline Amelia, Princesses de Saxe-Cobourg-Meiningen, was the Consort of William IV of England.



Queen Adelaide

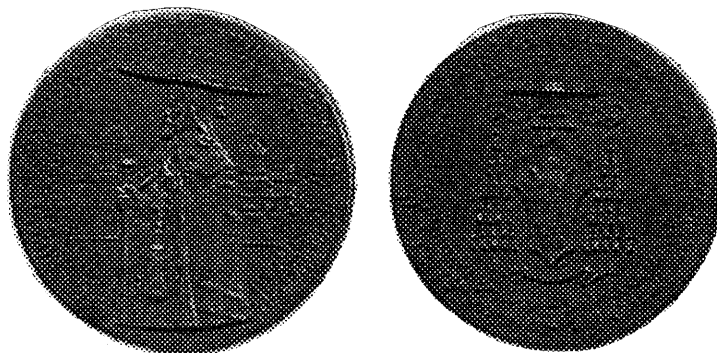


The portrait on the medal was taken from the painting of Queen Adelaide, which I found on the Internet. The biennial Adelaide Festival is acknowledged as one of the world's great arts festivals, with a tradition of innovation since 1960. A search again found a site of a Medals dealer in Australia who had this medal for sale at Au\$13.20. His has a green patina, vs. mine original bronze.

The third foreign medal was acquired at a new antique show held at a local church.



Patriarch Slipiy



Inscription in Ukrainian – Inscription in Greek

The dealer said he did not know where he got it or what it was. The medal was bronze, about 1-1/2 inches in diameter, quite thin. The obverse has a religious figure between two background buildings. The reverse displays a small Virgin Mary with the Greek cross above. The banner inscription below – *per asper ad astra* is in Latin.

The extensive inscriptions – two lines each on both the obverse and the reverse are in Cyrillic. An Internet search on the Latin motto translated it – *To the stars through hardship*, meaning figuratively “Greatness is only achieved by surmounting problems”. This still did not identify the medal. Trying again, as the portrait was of a religious figure, I did a search on the word *cardinal* and the date Dec 22, 1964. Bingo!

The following summary with a picture of the Ukrainian Patriarch was found.

Patriarch Josyf Slipyi, Major Archbishop, Patriarch, Cardinal and Metropolitan (1944-84). Born in Zazdrist in western Ukraine on 17 February 1892, he was a churchman of three careers: scholar, confessor of faith and an international voice for persecuted Christians. After studies in Lviv, Innsbruck (Austria), Rome and Paris, he became a professor and then Rector (1928-44) of the Lviv Seminary and Theological Academy. A prolific writer, his collected works include some twenty volumes. In 1939, he was ordained archbishop by Metropolitan Sheptytsky and succeeded him, as head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church upon the latter's death on 1 November 1944.

On April 11, 1945 Slipyi was arrested by the Soviet authorities and spent eighteen years in Stalinist prisons, labor camps and Siberian exile, where he earned a reputation for being an iron-willed, intrepid witness to the faith. Through the intervention of Pope John XXIII and President Kennedy, he was released in 1963 to attend the Second Vatican Council.

During the following twenty-one years, Slipyi energized the life of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in the West, establishing the Ukrainian Catholic University and building the Cathedral of St. Sophia in Rome. His death on 7 September 1984 was followed in 1992 by the transfer of his remains to Lviv, where they were interred in St. George's Cathedral with the participation of over a million of the faithful.

This little group was a diverse accumulation of unidentified foreign medals, of little value to the casual eye. Yet when researched, presented a page from the history of worldwide countries during the Twentieth Century. This shows how numismatics and exnumia commemorate people and events in history.

Although I love encyclopedias and have a large numismatic library, without the Internet and lots of time, it would be nearly impossible to find the interesting facts above. It only took less than a day to collect, edit with the help of a friend, and write this story.

MEMBER NOTICE PAGE

Albert L. Gammon, P. O. Box 1343, Sun City, AZ 85372; New ten page world coin list (95) contains Crowns, Minors, Ancients, Bank Notes, Tokens, Medals, Proof and Mint Sets, Books. List sent on request.

Albert L. Gammon, P. O. Box 1343, Sun City, AZ 85372; Have all Poland 2003 two Zlote coins including the new Pope John Paul II. Send SASE for up to date list of Poland coins.

Albert L. Gammon, P. O. Box 1343, Sun City, AZ 85372; Have a large lot of Mexico coins. Includes 8 Reales, Pesos, Onzas, minor coins and some bank notes. Send SASE for list.

EDGE VARIETY ON ZAMBIA 5 SHILLINGS COIN

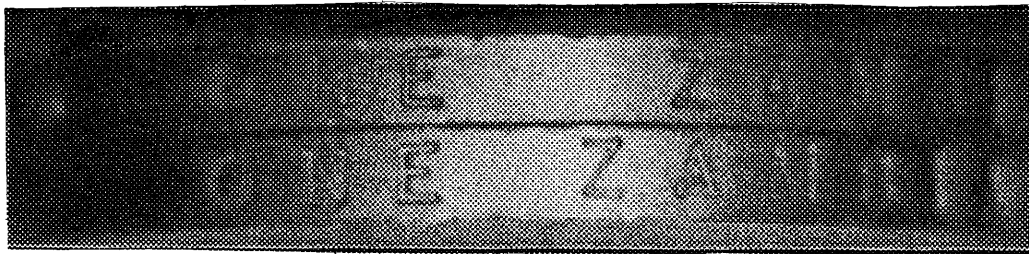
Paul Baker, NI #2615

It must have been in error that in December 1995 I bought a circulation finish Zambia 5 Shillings 1965. This was a mistake since I had one of these already, acquired in June of that year. So I compared these two coins to see which was the better grade piece. This comparison led me to notice that the word spacing in the edge inscription varied from one piece to another.

Below is a good representation of what I saw, a good representation since the lettering on the edge of the coin is non-proportional (fixed width) font as is that I have used for the image.

* ONE ZAMBIA ONE NATION *	24.10.1964
* ONE ZAMBIA ONE NATION *	24.10.1964

It was most likely in 1996 that I took a nice photograph of the section of the edge most relevant to this variety.



Proof examples of this type are not too hard to come by. I managed to get hold of one recently, it is the variety with the words "ONE" and "ZAMBIA" spaced further apart. It waits to be seen if two varieties will exist for the proofs of this type.